

IN THE CLAIMS:

1. An actuator assembly for an omnidirectional optical code scanner system for reading including illuminating, scanning and decoding at least one optical code within a field of view of the scanning system and oriented in an orientation included in a set of multiple orientations comprising:

means for providing for user selection of a mode selected from the group of modes consisting of: an omnidirectional mode for performing a read operation for reading an optical code oriented in any orientation included in the set of multiple orientations, a restricted omnidirectional mode for performing a read operation for reading the optical code when oriented only in an orientation of a reduced set of the set of multiple orientations; and an aim mode for illuminating a target object and disrupting a corresponding read operation; and

means for generating a signal indicative of the mode selection.

2. The actuator assembly according to Claim 1, wherein the reduced set is selectable.

3. The actuator assembly according to Claim 1, wherein the reduced set is selectable via the actuator assembly.

4. The actuator assembly according to Claim 1, wherein the actuator assembly is a single trigger.

5. The actuator assembly according to Claim 3, wherein the trigger is a single position trigger.

6. The actuator assembly according to Claim 1, wherein the group of modes further consists of a parameter adjustment mode for adjusting at least one parameter of the omnidirectional scanner system.

7. The actuator assembly according to Claim 1, wherein the scanning system further comprises means for at least one of further processing read operation results and transmitting the read operation results for further processing; and wherein disrupting the read operation includes causing the reading results to be unavailable for at least one of the processing and transmitting for further processing.

8. An omnidirectional optical code scanner system for reading including illuminating, scanning and decoding at least one optical code within a field of view of the scanning system and oriented in an orientation included in a set of multiple orientations comprising:

an actuator assembly comprising:

means for providing for user selection of a mode selected from the group of modes consisting of: an omnidirectional mode for performing a read operation for reading an optical code oriented in any orientation included in the set of multiple orientations, a restricted omnidirectional mode for performing a read operation for

reading the optical code when oriented only in an orientation of a reduced set of the set of multiple orientations; and an aim mode for illuminating a target object and disrupting a corresponding read operation; and

means for generating a signal indicative of the mode selection; and

5 at least one processor comprising means for operating the scanning system in the selected mode in accordance with the signal indicative of the mode selection.

9. The scanner system according to Claim 8, wherein the reduced set is selectable.

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10. The scanner system according to Claim 8, wherein the reduced set is selectable via the actuator assembly.

11. The scanner system according to Claim 8, wherein the actuator
15 assembly is a single trigger.

12. The scanner system according to Claim 8, wherein the trigger is a single position trigger.

20 13. The scanner system according to Claim 8, wherein the group of modes further consists of a parameter adjustment mode for adjusting at least one parameter of the omnidirectional scanner system.

14. The system according to Claim 8, further comprising means for at least one of further processing read operation results and transmitting the read operation results for further processing; and

wherein disrupting the read operation includes causing the reading results to be unavailable for at least one of the processing and transmitting for further processing.

15. A method for reading including illuminating, scanning and decoding at least one optical code within a field of view of the scanning system and oriented in an orientation included in a set of multiple orientations comprising the steps of:

providing for user selection of a mode selected from the group of modes consisting of: an omnidirectional mode for performing a read operation for reading an optical code oriented in any orientation included in the set of multiple orientations, a restricted omnidirectional mode for performing a read operation for reading the optical code when oriented only in an orientation of a reduced set of the set of multiple orientations; and an aim mode for illuminating a target object and disrupting a corresponding read operation; and

providing for generating a signal indicative of the mode selection.

16. The method according to Claim 15, wherein the reduced set is selectable.

17. The method according to Claim 15, wherein the providing for user selection includes providing one single position trigger operable by the user for selection of the mode.

5 18. The method according to Claim 15, further comprising the step of providing for at least one of further processing of read operation results and transmitting the read operation results for further processing;

wherein disrupting the read operation includes causing the reading results to be unavailable for at least one of the processing and transmitting for further
10 processing.

19. A single line scanning system for reading an optical code including illuminating, scanning and decoding at least one optical code within a field of view of the scanning system comprising:

15 one single position actuator assembly comprising:

first circuitry responsive to user action for providing for selection of a mode selected from the group of modes consisting of: a read mode for performing a read operation for reading an optical code, and an aim mode for illuminating a target object and disrupting a corresponding read operation; and

20 second circuitry for generating a signal indicative of the mode selection; and

at least one processor comprising means for operating the scanning system in the selected mode in accordance with the signal indicative of the mode selection.

20. The single line scanning system according to Claim 19, further comprising circuitry for at least one of further processing read operation results and transmitting the read operation results for further processing; and

wherein disrupting the read operation includes causing the read results to
5 be unavailable for at least one of the processing and transmitting for further processing.

21. The single line scanning system according to Claim 19, wherein the first circuitry is responsive only to user action.